



# St James Catholic School, Nar Nar Goon

Newsletter  
9<sup>th</sup> December 2021 Issue 32

## Principal's Report

Dear Families,

It's hard to believe that we have come to our last newsletter. As I reflect on the year, I am grateful for the welcoming and close knit community of St James and our wonderful children. While the year has presented with many challenges that have kept us apart physically, I am also reminded of the ways we have stayed connected and adapted to the online space once again. Since returning to onsite learning, we have enjoyed two camps, an excursion, Confirmation, First Communion, Cookbook launch, Christmas picnic and are looking forward to End of Year Mass, Year 6 Graduation and our final assembly.

Our end of year Mass is tomorrow at 9.30am. We invite parents to join us as we reflect and show gratitude for the year and look forward to 2022. Parents will need to QR code check in and provide proof of vaccination or exemption, so we ask you ensure you have this information with you. We ask you to arrive a little earlier so these processes can be completed prior to Mass commencing. We will need to wear face masks during Mass and morning tea. This year we farewell Carol McMahon, Katherine Muller, Gavin Balzary, Rob Vermeer, Alfredo Perez, Sandra Taweel and Brooke Jarred. We also wish Fr Peter well as he begins his retirement in January. Fr Peter has been an integral part of our school, not only as our Parish Priest but as a friend to many of our families. We will say goodbye to these staff members on Friday and then celebrate with them as a staff next Friday as they prepare for new adventures. We also say "see you later" to Mrs Veldman as she awaits the arrival of her child.

Students from Foundation - Year 5 will have "UP" day on Monday from 9.30-11am. This includes our 2022 Foundation students who are joining St James. This is where students will move into their new classes for 2022 and spend some time with their new teachers. Staffing for 2022 will be finalised tomorrow and I will share this with you as soon as the process is completed.

Semester Two reports will be released via PAM on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December as a digital copy.

The first day of school for all students is February 1, 2022. The school office will be closed from 12pm on Friday until Friday January 28. If you have any concerns and need to contact the school over the holidays, please email [principal@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au) and I will get back to you.

*Bec Kollaris*

Principal



Address: 60 Nar Nar Goon Road,  
Nar Nar Goon VIC 3812

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## Vaccination requirements for Visitors or Volunteers

Parents, guardians and carers who enter school buildings must be fully vaccinated or have a valid medical exception with the following limited exceptions:

- When attending to administer medical treatment to their own child when treatment cannot be administered by the school
- When attending to collect their child who is unwell and cannot leave the building unaccompanied by their parent/carer
- When attending for a momentary period that does not involve any sustained contact with staff or students, for example, to collect school work or similar.

All adults, including parents, guardians and carers attending any school event or activity including, but not limited to tours, graduations, assemblies, transition days or whole school events are required to be fully vaccinated and show evidence of vaccination.

Meetings such as PSG's and Parent Teacher Interviews will be held virtually for parents, guardians and carers who do not meet the vaccination requirements.

### The following COVID Restrictions remain in place:

If your child is experiencing signs or symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), they must not attend school until their symptoms resolve and appropriate medical advice is obtained. This includes even mild symptoms of COVID-19.

- **Parents are now welcome to enter the school grounds as long as you QR code on the way in. Please remain outside the classrooms and do not enter the buildings. If you are coming in for a prearranged meeting please QR code and sign in through VPass at the office.**
- **Adult Masks** - Masks are required to be worn by parents indoors at all times when at school or when 1.5mtrs cannot be maintained.
- **Student Masks** – as per government regulations students in Year 3-6 are required to wear masks indoors unless an exception applies. Masks are encouraged for students in Year F-2.
- When entering the office foyer to pick up or drop off students, it is a requirement that you QR code check in.
- **COVID Exposure Sites** – We ask that families please keep abreast of the COVID Exposure Site list and follow the Government requirements. If you have been exposed and are required to quarantine, please contact the school.
- Upon arrival at school or during the day, if your child becomes unwell, you will be contacted and required to come and collect your child.
- **Birthdays** – we are happy to acknowledge and celebrate your child's birthday in the classroom, however as previously stated, due to COVID, children cannot bring chocolate, lollies etc. to share for their birthday.
- All extra cleaning and hand hygiene that was in place last year, is still being adhered to.

The practice of the car line will remain. Parents waiting to collect children need to adhere to the strict 1.5m social distancing requirements, if social distancing cannot be maintained masks need to be worn.

### New isolation requirements for close contacts:

- Non-household contacts will now only be required to quarantine until they complete a standard (PCR) test and receive a negative result.
- All school-based contacts (staff and students) can return to school after they have provided evidence of a negative PCR test to their school.
- All contacts should follow the strong recommendation that they complete five days of rapid antigen testing each morning before attending school. These will be available for collection from PCR testing centres at the time a student or staff member attends for the PCR test.
- Any student or staff member who returns a positive rapid antigen test result must notify the school and immediately get a PCR test and remain isolated until they receive a negative result.
- In exceptional circumstances, the Department of Health may determine that contacts in significant school outbreaks are still required to quarantine for seven days. In this scenario, parents, guardians and carers will be notified directly of any additional quarantine arrangements that apply to their child(ren).
- Mask rules in primary schools remain unchanged when indoors.

*We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we learn and play. We pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging. The St James Community acknowledges that we are built on the traditional land of the Bunurong people.*

**Address:** 60 Nar Nar Goon Road,  
Nar Nar Goon VIC 3812

**Email:** [principal@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au)  
**Website:** [www.stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au)

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## Student Absences

To avoid students having UNEXPLAINED ABSENCES, Parents/Guardians are reminded to inform the School by 9.00am via Email – [office@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au) OR Phone – 5942 5404. Absences can also be marked in PAM.

Please provide the student's name, date and reason for absence.

## Late Arrivals / Early Departures

If you are dropping your child off late (after the bell has gone) or collecting him/her early you must visit the office and fill in the Sign In / Sign Out Register. Office staff will take your child through to their class at an appropriate time to ensure minimal disruption is made to the classrooms.

## E-Safety

When it comes to online safety, the [eSafety Commissioner website](#) is here to help support parents and carers and ensure that together, we keep children safer online.

More advice and information is available at [eSafety parents](#).

## PAM

PAM (Parent Access Module) is our new Parent to School communication Platform. PAM will provide real time access to keep parents updated with their children's progress, important dates and messages. Resources such as student reports, parent notified absences, sick bay notes will all be accessed via PAM.

If you have any issues or need help with PAM please contact the school via [office@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au)

## Dates to Remember

9 <sup>th</sup> December Bunnings Family Christmas Night 6 – 8pm	10 <sup>th</sup> December End of Year Mass 9:30am Followed by Morning Tea	12 <sup>th</sup> December 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent	13 <sup>th</sup> December Advent Liturgy 9:00am Meet and Greet Parents and New Staff 2:30pm	14 <sup>th</sup> December Year 6 Graduation Mass 5.00pm	15 <sup>th</sup> December Students last day Whole school assembly & Guard of Honour for Year Six Students
16 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> December School Closure	19 <sup>th</sup> December 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	24 <sup>th</sup> December Christmas Eve	25 <sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day	28 <sup>th</sup> & 31 <sup>st</sup> January School Closure	1 <sup>st</sup> February Students First Day

## St James Prayer

Lord our Guiding Light,  
Let us follow in the footsteps of St James with shell in hand  
May the Spirit guide us to show love, peace and  
forgiveness  
Come follow me  
Help us to strive to do our best in all the learning we do  
We pray for wisdom with God's creation to care for all living  
things  
Come follow me  
Help us to be a friend, like St James was to Jesus  
Bless our families, friends and community  
Guide our community to nurture and grow in faith  
Come follow me  
Amen

## School Advisory Committee

Committee members for 2021 are:

Rebecca Kollaris	Fr Peter Kooloos
Rob Vermeer	Gehan Dedigama
Ryan Lawlor	Tory Parker
Justine Langley	Liz Cunningham
Steph Katta	Alanna Pomeroy

Next Meeting: AGM Postponed to 2022

## Parents and Friends

Committee Members for 2021 are:

President	Meagan Rogers
Secretary	Karen Lawlor
Treasurer	Emma Spoard
Monday Lunches	Donna Reilly
Advisory Committee Representative	Justine Langley

AGM – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022

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Dear Parents,

It is the time of year where we think about the Festive Season and how quickly it comes around for us all and it is especially important as many families are struggling this year in particular....

**We are asking for contributions for our  
St Vincent De Paul  
Christmas Festive Food Hampers and Presents**



***We are asking for Donations of NON-PERISHABLE food items- to be sent in to school any time from now until***

***Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup> of December.***

***Festive Food-plum pudding, chips, bon-bons***

***Small gift wrapped with a note indicating the age and gender***

***St James families are traditionally very generous and we invite you to contribute in this very tangible way to the needy in our society.***

***Many, many thanks in advance for your donation.***

### **End of Year Mass**

A beautiful tradition at St James is to celebrate the End of the School Year with a Mass. This year we will have our Mass on **Friday the 10<sup>th</sup> December** at 9.30 am. This will be followed by a morning tea. Please bring a plate to share.

\* All visitors must sign in through the Services Victoria QR Code and show their proof of vaccination.

### **Advent Liturgy**

Students will gather together on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 9.00am for our second Advent Liturgy under the red roof. Parents are welcome to attend, please remember to QR code and show proof of vaccination

### **2021 Graduation Mass**

**When: Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December @ 5.00pm**

**Where: St James Church**

The Graduation Mass is a rite of passage for our Year 6's - a very special occasion for them and their parents but it also is a whole school celebration.

We would like to invite **ALL** families to support this year's graduating students by attending Mass.

\* All visitors must sign in through the Services Victoria QR Code and show their proof of vaccination.

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## 2022 Enrolments Foundation to Year Six - Spread the Word

We are taking enrolments for 2022.

If you have, family or friends who may be considering St James next year please get them to contact the school as soon as possible to avoid a potential wait list.

Enrolment forms can be collected from the office, please contact the office, [office@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au) or phone 5942 5404 if you would like them sent home. We also offer School Tours by appointment.

## 2021 Term Dates and School Closure Days

<b>Term Dates:</b> Term 4 4 <sup>th</sup> October – 17 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>Closure Days:</b> Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> December – Professional Development Day Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December – Professional Development Day
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## School Fees

All statements have been emailed out to families (please check your spam/junk email), please finalise any outstanding fees as soon as possible.

Many in our community continue to face financial impacts as a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Fee payers requesting consideration for fee relief should contact Bec Kollaris via email [principal@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au) to set up confidential financial support or to obtain further information.

	6 <sup>th</sup> December Pippa – Year 2	12 <sup>th</sup> December Amaya – Year 3	14 <sup>th</sup> December Willow – Foundation Laurel - Foundation	19 <sup>th</sup> December Billy – Year 1
20 <sup>th</sup> December Holly – Year 2	21 <sup>st</sup> December Jack – Foundation Imelda – Year 4	25 <sup>th</sup> December Jack – Year 3	29 <sup>th</sup> December Miles – Foundation Amy – Year 6 Jade – Year 6	

## Students last day for 2021

Children will finish for the year on **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December**, normal dismissal time.

All parents are invited to say good-bye to the Year 6 students on the last day of term. The WHOLE SCHOOL will attend assembly at 3:00pm followed by a GUARD OF HONOUR to farewell the students.

Parents are all welcome to come along to see them off. \* All visitors must sign in through the Services Victoria QR Code and show their proof of vaccination.

## First Day of School for 2021

All students will commence their 2022 school year on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022**. Staff will return on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January for staff planning. Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January will be a school closure, as staff will be attending a Professional Development. The school office will open from 8.30am on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January.

Parents and Friends will holding a lunch at the Garfield Pub at 12.00pm, if you are interested in going please email [stjamespfc@gmail.com](mailto:stjamespfc@gmail.com) by 27<sup>th</sup> January. Toddlers are welcome.

## Operoo

Now that we are using SIMON/PAM for all our student medical records, we will no longer using Operoo. Please note that in 2022 you may delete your account if you do not use it for any other purpose.

## Semester Two Reports

Semester Two reports will be released via PAM on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December as a digital copy.



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## Classroom News

### Foundation

On Thursday 2nd December, Foundation and Grade 1/2 students went to Coal Creek. We looked at different buildings such as a house, shoe shop, doctor's office, general store, chemist and a barber shop. In houses, we noticed that the toilets were outside. We went to a school and had an old school lesson. We learnt how to do cursive writing, they had a cane, Foundation used a sandbox to practise their letters and they didn't use paper until grade 3. We also learnt that girls did not wear pants instead they wore dresses. Some students would ride a horse to school, catch a train or walk to school. We had a great time and had lots of fun. We really enjoyed our bus ride to and from Coal Creek.

### Year One/Two

#### Coal Creek

Last Thursday we went to Coal Creek to learn about how things have changed from the past to the present.

- Pippa - I liked looking at all the shops and houses how they were build different
- Maggie - I liked using the quills
- Travis - I liked oding the school lesson
- Arthur - I liked splitting into groups and exploring, my favourite things were; a grave with my name on it, the haunted house and the carriage shop
- Holly - I liked the school lesson and using the quills
- Harvey - I liked writing on the slate blackboard
- Raiden - I liked being outside of school and seeing another place
- Jay - I liked using the ink pens and learning the writing (copper plate)
- Jaxon - I liked going on the bus and seeing all the things around
- Lachlan - I liked looking at the kids games in the haunted house, I saw knuckles.
- Luca - I liked going back to school because I was talking to Mrs R
- Kobie - I liked exploring, my favourite places were; the mining tools, Arthur's grave and the steam train
- Darcy - I liked seeing the giant cow on the side of the road (Caldermeade)
- Aanya - I liked looking at the hairdressers
- Amelia - I liked how we learnt to write using the sandboxes
- Jasmine - I liked exploring and sitting next to the teachers on the bus
- Sophie - I liked how the teacher told us about the cane and how many whacks, it was really loud!
- Georgie - I liked the washing machine (wringer)
- Jack - My favourite thing was the boot maker
- Scarlett - I liked the quills and the carriage shop

We really enjoyed our time at Coal Creek even if it was really hot!

Thanks to the parents who came to support us!

### Year Three/Four GB

It has been a challenging year once again. Despite the challenges, we have worked hard to focus on the positives. Here are some reflections of what students in 3/4GB loved about their year.

My favourite memory from this year was beating my highest score on Level 1 in Athletics - Tom

My favourite memory was doing the soil sample experiment. We collected samples and displayed them. We used a microscope to look at them. It was really cool. - Riley

I loved doing gardening in the veggie patch - Imelda

I loved being with my friends when we were at school. - Peyton

I loved school photo day because everyone was smiling when we were together. - Allie

I liked when we returned from remote learning. It made me happy - Eddie

I loved all the teachers that have taught us this year - Callum

I loved all the novels we read when we had fruit time. - Scarlett

I loved everything about camp. - Indigo

I have once again loved working with a hard-working and motivated group of students who strive to do their best. It has been a pleasure working with them and their families. - Mr B

The team of 3/4 GB wish the school community a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and safe New Year.

The wildlife was blooming  
Birds were trilling  
Grass was greener than ever  
Kids playing outside and a big blue sky above  
Colourful flowers everywhere  
Baby animals born  
Life was a dream

Life wasn't a dream anymore  
Dead grass, burnt trees and ash covered roads  
Animals are gone and the birds aren't chirping anymore  
Black skies and black, dead, burnt flowers  
Where has the past gone?

By Amy

**Before**

Lushes of green grass  
Bees and birds flying around  
Flowers everywhere

Birds chirping loudly  
Animals running around  
Stunning landscapes

**After**

Trees burned to ashes  
Devastating destruction  
Flowers disappeared

Trees stripped bare of bark  
Animals gone everywhere  
Vegetation gone.

By Brianna

Life was great before  
Green gleaming with wildlife  
Hikers everywhere

Blackened sky life dead  
Smouldering ground slowly choking me  
Saddening my life

By Owen

**BEFORE**

Lush, green, beautiful  
Birds singing all around me  
Grass, trees and bushes

**AFTER**

Black is everywhere  
Black ground, black trees and no leaves  
Smoke is choking me

By Matilda

**Before haiku**

Breathtaking mountains  
Flourishing with the wildlife  
Beautiful mountains

**After cinquain**

Smoky  
Unbearable  
Leaves disintegrated  
It's devastatingly lethal  
Choking

By Tom



Dear Parents and Guardians,

## **School Bus Management System**

In the lead up to the 2022 school year, all travellers wishing to access School Bus Program services, are required to login to the School Bus Management System and submit their travel applications.

The school wishes to stress to parents that safety is our number one priority. If your child is not registered and is still travelling on a bus, then the School Bus Management System and our school records will not have them listed to catch the bus. In the event of an incident or a need to stop the bus, we will not know that firstly your child is on the bus and will not know to contact you.

To login to the School Bus Management System, please go to <https://schoolbus.educationapps.vic.gov.au/>

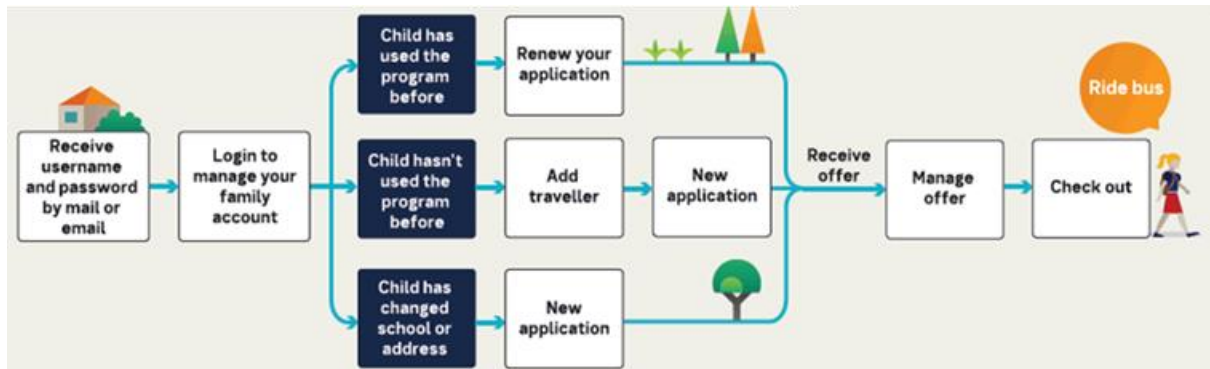
### **Existing Travellers**

These are students who already travel on the school bus and are registered on the School Bus Management System. If your child requires continued travel on the school bus, then you must submit a 2022 travel application.

The chart below will help families already registered on the School Bus Management System to:

- Renew Applications - If your child is already travelling and needs continued school bus access and has not changed school or home address
- Add Travellers and New Application - If you are already registered on the School Bus Management System, but have a child accessing a bus for the first time
- New Application - If your child is already travelling but has changed school or home address.

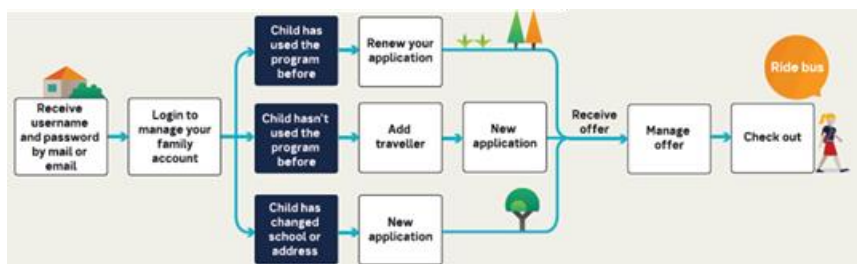
For your convenience, please see chart below to help with the process.



### **New Families**

All new families seeking access to School Bus Program services for the first time will need to register on the School Bus Management System. Please go to <https://schoolbus.educationapps.vic.gov.au/> Once registered, families will be able to add travellers and submit travel applications online.

For your convenience, please see the chart below to help you with the registration and application process.



### **When Can You Submit My Child's 2022 Application?**

Now. The School Bus Management System is accepting 2022 applications now.

### **When Will You Receive A Travel Offer?**

The School Bus Management System will process all 2022 travel applications at the end of December.

### **What's Next?**

When you receive your child's travel offer, login to the School Bus Management System and manage your child's offer. This completes the process.

### **Need Assistance?**

In the event families need assistance, please contact Public Transport Victoria's Call Centre on 1800 800 007.





23/11/2021

Dear School Community,

### *Annual VIP Sale*

We're pleased to announce that in a few weeks' time, we'll be holding our Annual VIP Sale! All families will be able to shop in-store for 20% off all Beleza-branded items as they prepare for the 2022 school year.

We've been working to plan a COVID-safe VIP sale, so while we're excited to be able to hold the 20% sale again this year, there are a few requests that we'd like to make of our customers to help ensure we're keeping everyone as safe as we can. These are the standard COVID-safe practices such as:

- Maintaining social distancing while in-store
- Checking in via the provided QR Codes or manual sign-in sheet
- Wearing masks while in-store (unless a medical exemption applies)

Given the most recent changes to the Victorian restrictions, as a 'non-essential retail' business we now have to ensure that all customers who enter are fully vaccinated. We know that we're in a unique position as a school uniform supplier when working under this regulation, so we'd like to ensure all customers that regardless of vaccination status, we'll make sure we can supply you with uniforms! For unvaccinated customers, this will mean that we won't be able to have you in-store, however we'll still be able to use a click-and-collect approach at the door upon arrival.

Where possible, we recommend that families visit our store on a weekday, as this will generally reduce wait times and make for a smoother shopping experience! For the dates of the sale, please refer to the flyer provided with this letter.

Additionally, while we should have the majority of uniform items available, we're still expecting some stock shipments between now and the end of the year, so some items may not be available during the sale period. If this happens, we'll happily take any customer orders for the out-of-stock item, and will honour the 20% discount as soon as the stock's arrived in store.

We'd like to thank you for your co-operation and look forward to helping you get a head-start on the 2022 school year!

Kind regards,

Beleza School Uniforms

Beleza School Uniforms | Head Office | 72 Wedgewood Rd, Hallam VIC 3803  
Ph: (03) 9702 3218 Fax: (03) 9702 3193 | Email: [beleza@beleza.com.au](mailto:beleza@beleza.com.au)

Address: 60 Nar Nar Goon Road,  
Nar Nar Goon VIC 3812

Email: [principal@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@stjamesnng.catholic.edu.au)  
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### Parents and Friends Cookbook

Cookbooks can be purchased for \$30.00

Payment details are St James P&F

BSB: 083 879 Account: 195 629 801

Please add your name and "cookbook" as a reference

## IONA-MARYKNOLL AND KOOWEERUP CATHOLIC PARISHES

### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

St James Nar Nar Goon	Mass	5.30 pm
St John the Baptist Kooweerup	Mass	7.30 pm
St Joseph's Iona	Mass	9.00 pm

Holy Family Maryknoll	Liturgy	7.00 pm
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### CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES

St Mary's Lang Lang	Mass	9.00 am
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Fr Peter and all the staff wish everyone a  
happy and holy Christmas

Please contact the Parish office  
for further information 0456000990

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